Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Tuesday 29 Dec 2020 until 23:59 on Wednesday 30 Dec 2020

Forecast Issued on Tuesday 29 Dec 2020 at 02:12

Confidence: High for remaining cold but lower with regard to details for cloud and any snow showers.

Headline for Tuesday 29 Dec 2020: Mainly dry with sunny spells. Cold but strong northerly winds easing.

Mountain weather hazards on Tuesday 29 Dec 2020

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy Snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales No Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Medium Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Low Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Fog	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Mist	Fog
Precipitation probability					
30%	10%	10%	10%	00%	00%

Forecast for Tuesday 29 Dec 2020

Weather: Clear spells and occasional, mainly light snow showers through the early hours. Any snow showers soon dying out to leave a bright day with some good spells of sunshine. Remaining dry through the evening with clear spells.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Around 40% at first with occasional or periods of cloud above 600m rising close to 100% by midday with little or no cloud expected below the summits.

Visibility: Very good, temporarily falling to just a few kilometres in snow showers.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Tuesday 29 Dec 2020

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	32/37 NE	31/37 N	25/30 N	21/25 N	16/20 NW	18/22 N	19/23 N
600	20/26 N	21/28 N	18/24 N	13/18 N	12/17 NW	12/17 NW	13/18 NW
300	8/24 N	8/23 N	8/20 N	6/19 N	5/14 NW	5/15 NW	5/16 NW
Valley	13/31 N	12/28 N	10/22 N	8/20 N	7/16 N	7/16 N	6/14 N

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-3/-12	-3/-12	-3/-11	-3/-10	-3/-10	-4/-11	-4/-12
600	-2/-9	-1/-8	-1/-7	-1/-7	-2/-7	-2/-8	-3/-8
300	-0/-4	1/-3	2/-2	1/-2	-0/-3	-1/-4	-1/-4
Valley	2/-3	2/-2	4/0	3/0	2/-1	2/-2	1/-2
Freezing Level*	300m	400m	500m	400m	300m	300m	300m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Valley temperatures around minus 2 or 3 Celsius at first. Significant chill at all levels throughout.

Forecast for Wednesday 30 Dec 2020

Weather: Becoming rather cloudy overnight with a few light snow showers, these mainly in the west. Then a rather cloudy day with one or two light snow showers and only limited sunny spells, these mainly across southern fells. Risk of showers becoming more frequent, and perhaps a little heavier, across eastern fells during the evening.

Maximum wind: Northwesterly 20mph gradually decreasing 10-15mph.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Around 40% with occasional or periods above 600m, but nearer 75% over southern fells with cloud more occasional above 750m.

Visibility: Good or very good falling to just a few kilometres in snow showers and perhaps less than a kilometre in the east during the evening.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Around minus 3 or 4 Celsius overnight rising to 3 or 4 Celsius by day
At 800m: Around minus 4 Celsius
Freezing level: Around 300m.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement
Date: Monday 28 December
Location: Helvellyn summit at 14:45 Temperature: minus 2.6°C Maximum wind speed 15.0mph Wind chill: minus 10.3°C Average wind speed: 12.7mph Full report: Freezing fog blanketed much of the Eden Valley throughout the day but above this several hundred people enjoyed a sunny, cold & calm day on Helvellyn. The snow level remains around 300m but there was a significant frost in the valleys overnight and many paths even at low levels are very icy. Lower sunlit slopes suffered a bit of thaw today but will quickly refreeze in the cold temperatures overnight. Higher on the mountain the deepest snow, which can be up to knee deep, can be found on N through E aspects where the wind has deposited it. It is beginning to consolidate and in places there was a non weight bearing crust. Beneath this there are still patches of the old snow, especially on paths where it has been compressed by walkers feet, which have now refrozen and can catch out the unwary. We strongly recommend that anyone venturing out above the snow line is equipped with winter boots, crampons and an ice axe. Even at low levels microspikes would be very useful for a safe and enjoyable day. The consequences of a simple slip on snow & ice not quickly arrested could be severe. Bum sliding down Swirral Edge in trainers is a recipe for disaster! Swirral & Striding Edge are in good winter condition with a reassuring covering of snow offering secure footing for those with the correct equipment and skills. The Helvellyn plateau is a mixture of soft snow and iced rock with rime forming above 800m. Small cornices can be found above north through east faces and these should be given a wide berth. A number of people had very lucky escapes today after straying too close to the edge. Climbers - Much of the turf is now buried and insulated by a thin layer of soft snow and remains unfrozen. Gullies should be avoided in these conditions due to the risk of damaging the rare alpine plants which somehow survive in these areas. The soft snow and wet grass wouldn't be much fun to climb anyway!

Issued at: 02:12 on Tue 29 Dec 2020

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